

LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Statistical Data for Feb. 2008 Economic Growth Region 4

April 2008

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES February 2008 Preliminary Unemployment Rates

AREA	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	02/08	01/08	02/07
U.S.	152,503,000	144,550,000	7,953,000	5.2	5.4	4.9
INDIANA	3,190,190	3,022,923	167,267	5.2	5.1	5.3
Economic Growth Region 4*	23,6429	223,828	12,601	5.3	5.4	5.2
Kokomo MSA**	44,902	41,911	2,991	6.7	7.2	6.2
Lafayette MSA***	95,855	91,479	4,376	4.6	4.2	4.5
Benton County	4,616	4,384	232	5.0	5.0	5.5
Carroll County	10,561	10,066	495	4.7	4.9	4.7
Cass County	18,466	17,382	1,084	5.9	5.8	5.9
Clinton County	16,610	15,687	923	5.6	5.3	5.7
Fountain County	8,499	8,080	419	4.9	4.8	5.0
Howard County	37,169	34,664	2,505	6.7	7.4	6.2
Miami County	16,382	15,264	1,118	6.8	7.4	6.5
Montgomery County	19,105	18,285	820	4.3	4.1	4.3
Tippecanoe County	80,678	77,029	3,649	4.5	4.1	4.4
Tipton County	7,733	7,247	486	6.3	6.3	6.1
Warren County	4,702	4,524	178	3.8	3.3	4.1
White County	11,908	11,216	692	5.8	5.7	5.7
Attica City	11,908	11,216	692	5.8	4.7	3.8
Crawfordsville City	7,297	6,928	369	5.1	4.5	6.0
Delphi City	1,420	1,350	70	4.9	5.0	6.2
Fowler City	1,104	1,059	45	4.1	4.4	5.5
Frankfort City	7,239	6,721	518	7.2	6.8	7.4
Kokomo City	20,227	18,608	1,619	8.0	8.0	7.3
Lafayette City	33,480	31,839	1,641	4.9	4.9	4.9
Logansport City	8,393	7,836	557	6.6	6.5	6.8
Monticello City	2,579	2,393	186	7.2	6.9	7.7
Peru City	5,721	5,295	426	7.4	8.1	7.8
Tipton City	2,452	2,265	187	7.6	6.7	6.5
Williamsport City	991	960	31	3.1	2.7	3.4

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE RANKING by COUNTY (High to Low)

Feb 2008 RANK	COUNTY	Feb 2008 RATE
88	Warren	3.8%
83	Montgomery	4.3%
79	Tippecanoe	4.5%
73	Carroll	4.7%
67	Fountain	4.9%
61	Benton	5.0%
44	Clinton	5.6%
42	White	5.8%
37	Cass	5.9%
28	Tipton	6.3%
15	Howard	6.7%
11	Miami	6.8%

Surrounding States	Unemployment Rates
Feb 2008	(Non-seasonably adjusted)
Illinois	6.0%
Kentucky	6.2%
Michigan	7.8%
Ohio	6.0%



REGIONAL AND STATE UNEMPLOYMENT (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

Regional and state unemployment rates were little changed in February. Overall, 20 states and the District of Columbia recorded over-the-month unemployment rate decreases, 19 states registered increases, and 11 states had no change, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Over the year, jobless rates were up in 26 states and the District of Columbia, down in 20 states, and unchanged in 4 states. The national unemployment rate was essentially unchanged in February at 4.8 percent, but was up from 4.5 percent a year earlier.

***EGR 4** includes Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Howard, Miami, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Warren and White counties
****Kokomo MSA** includes Howard and Tipton counties
***** Lafayette MSA** includes Benton, Carroll and Tippecanoe counties

All About Unemployment Rates

For a detailed report on how the government measures unemployment rates click on the following link:

http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps_htgm.htm

For the detailed news summary regarding the employment situation in the United States click on the following link: (Adobe Acrobat necessary)

<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>

LAFAYETTE MSA

(Benton, Carroll, and Tippecanoe Counties)

WAGE AND SALARIED EMPLOYMENT

				CHANGE FROM			
				JAN.	2008	FEB.	2007
				TO		TO	
	FEB.	JAN.	FEB.	FEB.	2008	FEB.	2008
	2008	2008	2007				
Total Private	65,700	66,300	65,800	-600	-0.9%	-100	0%
Goods Producing	20,400	20,800	20,600	-400	-1.9%	-200	-1%
Service-Providing	74,000	73,900	73,700	100	0.1%	300	0%
Private Srvc Providing	45,300	45,500	45,200	-200	-0.4%	100	0%
Mining & Construction	3,400	3,500	3,300	-100	-2.9%	100	3%
Manufacturing	17,000	17,300	17,300	-300	-1.7%	-300	-2%
Durable Goods	13,100	13,400	13,100	-300	-2.2%	0	0%
Non-Durable Goods	3,900	3,900	4,200	0	0.0%	-300	-7%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	13,900	14,100	14,000	-200	-1.4%	-100	-1%
Wholesale Trade	2,100	2,100	2,000	0	0.0%	100	5%
Retail Trade	9,900	10,100	10,100	-200	-2.0%	-200	-2%
Trans,Warehouse, Utilities	1,900	1,900	1,900	0	0.0%	0	0%
Information	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0.0%	0	0%
Financial Activities	3,800	3,800	3,800	0	0.0%	0	0%
Professional and Business	5,300	5,400	5,200	-100	-1.9%	100	2%
Educational and Health	9,800	9,700	9,700	100	1.0%	100	1%
Leisure and Hospitality	8,500	8,500	8,500	0	0.0%	0	0%
Accommodation and Food	7,900	7,900	7,900	0	0.0%	0	0%
Other Services	2,900	2,900	2,900	0	0.0%	0	0%
Government	28,700	28,400	28,500	300	1.1%	200	1%
Federal Government	700	700	700	0	0.0%	0	0%
State Government	21,200	21,000	21,000	200	1.0%	200	1%
Local Government	6,800	6,700	6,800	100	1.5%	0	0%
Local Govt Education	4,300	4,200	4,300	100	2.4%	0	0%

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, CES



KOKOMO MSA

(Howard and Tipton Counties)

WAGE AND SALARIED EMPLOYMENT



North American Industry Classification System

						CHANGE FROM	
				JAN.	2008	FEB.	2007
	FEB.	JAN.	FEB.	TO		TO	
	2008	2008	2007	FEB.	2008	FEB.	2008
Total Nonfarm	45,300	45,300	45,900	0	0.0%	-600	-1.3%
Total Private	37,500	37,600	38,200	-100	-0.3%	-700	-1.8%
Goods Producing	14,800	14,900	15,800	-100	-0.7%	-1,000	-6.3%
Service-Providing	30,500	30,300	30,100	200	0.7%	400	1.3%
Private Srvc Providing	22,700	22,700	22,400	0	0.0%	300	1.3%
Mining & Construction	1,200	1,300	1,200	-100	-7.7%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	13,600	13,600	14,600	0	0.0%	-1,000	-6.8%
Durable Goods	12,800	12,900	13,900	-100	-0.8%	-1,100	-7.9%
Transportation Equipment Mfg	10,600	10,700	11,600	-100	-0.9%	-1,000	-8.6%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	7,200	7,300	7,400	-100	-1.4%	-200	-2.7%
Wholesale Trade	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	5,500	5,600	5,500	-100	-1.8%	0	0.0%
Trans,Warehouse, Utilities	700	700	700	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Information	300	300	300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,500	1,500	1,400	0	0.0%	100	7.1%
Professional and Business	3,000	3,000	2,800	0	0.0%	200	7.1%
Educational and Health	4,200	4,100	3,900	100	2.4%	300	7.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other Services	2,200	2,200	2,300	0	0.0%	-100	-4.3%
Government	7,800	7,700	7,700	100	1.3%	100	1.3%
Local Government	6,500	6,400	6,300	100	1.6%	200	3.2%
Local Govt Education	3,000	2,800	2,800	200	7.1%	200	7.1%

*Unofficial/Non BLS area estimates

BLS funding for Anderson MSA was suspended for 2008 but Indiana will continue to estimate.

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, CES

MONTHLY COMPARISON OF UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY OFFICE TOTAL ALL CLAIMS FILED

Initial Claims				Total Claims			
Local Office	Feb 2008	Jan 2008	% Change	Local Office	Feb 2008	Jan 2008	% Change
Kokomo	1,290	3,087	-58.2%	Kokomo	13,417	15,973	-16.0%
Lafayette	1,642	2,344	-29.9%	Lafayette	16,839	17,300	-2.7%
Indiana	36,895	59,048	-37.5%	Indiana	359,844	400,081	-10.1%

Bureau of Labor Statistics Reports....

"Liberal arts majors can, indeed, turn their degree and a little experience into a successful career" writes Vickie Elmer in her "Working" feature, The Washington Post, page D2. The Bureau of Labor Statistics offers a guide online and in its winter: "Occupational Outlook Quarterly". Long before graduation, students who major in English literature, psychology, or general studies need to develop a niche to direct them toward jobs. Career center staff and skill assessments can help. So can a look at your activities or class projects. Once students have some career prospects, they may test themselves through internships or volunteer experience to see whether the job is a good match, BLS says. Liberal arts majors are most likely to start careers as management trainees, social workers, graphic designers, teachers or sales associates, according to the BLS report, based partly on research by the National Association of Colleges and Employers. On average, those jobs start at \$27,037 to \$39,535 and salaries are rising. And remember, NACE reports that the perfect job candidate is a great communicator and hard worker who displays initiative and teamwork -- which don't require a business or engineering degree.

More than 80 companies across the nation allow babies in the workplace, according to Parenting in the Workplace Institute in Framingham, Mass., which says that number is likely to be low (Stephanie Armour, "Day Care's New Frontier: Your Baby at your Desk, USA Today, March 31, page 1). It's an extreme -- and controversial -- example of how employers are seeking more ways to help workers strike a balance between work and the rest of their lives. The number of companies allowing children at work on an occasional basis climbed to 29 percent last year, up from 22 percent in 2006, according to the Society for Human Resource Management. Employers allowing workers to bring babies to work each day include retail companies, insurance firms, law offices and credit unions. In such arrangements, parents typically keep their children at their desk.

"Everyone knows that blue-collar and white-collar jobs are, but now a job of another hue -- green -- has entered the lexicon," writes Steven Greenhouse in "Jobs of a Different Collar," The New York Times, March 26, page H1. Presidential candidates talk about the promise of "green collar" jobs -- an economy with millions of workers installing solar panels, weatherizing homes, brewing biofuels, building hybrid cars and erecting giant wind turbines. Labor unions view these new jobs as replacements for positions lost to overseas manufacturing and outsourcing. Urban groups view training in green jobs as a route out of poverty. And environmentalists say they are crucial to combating climate change. No doubt that the number of green-collar jobs is growing... But some skeptics argue that the phrase "green jobs" is little more than a trendy term for politicians to bandy about. "A green-collar job is in essence a blue-collar job that has been upgraded to address the environmental challenges of our country," said Lucy Blake, chief executive of the Apollo Alliance, a coalition of environmental groups, labor unions and politicians seeking to transform the economy into one based on renewable energy. It is hard to gauge the number of green-collar jobs, nationwide. Welders at a wind-turbine factory are viewed as having green jobs, but what about the factory's accountant or its janitors? Van Jones, president of Green for All, an organization based in Oakland, Calif., whose goal is promoting renewable energy and lifting workers out of poverty, sees green jobs as providing a career ladder. Some workers might start at \$10 an hour inspecting homes for energy-efficient light bulbs. Then they might become \$18-an-hour workers installing solar panels and eventually \$25-an-hour solar-team managers. Eventually they might become \$40-an-hour electricians or carpenters, who do energy-minded renovations.



Consumer Price Index

1 Month Percent Change

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Midwest Urban Average

All items

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2007	0.1	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	0.6	-0.1	0.7	-0.3
2008	0.6	0.2										

12 Months Percent Change

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Midwest Urban Average

All items

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2007	1.2	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.9	2.7	2.3	1.8	3.1	3.7	4.1	3.8
2008	4.3	3.8										

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Economic Growth Region 4 *Quarterly Workforce Indicators*

(male and female 14-99)

Quarterly Workforce

Indicator

1Q2007

Total Employment	194,857
Net Job Flows	-1,825
Job Creation	8,368
New Hires	23,890
Separations	30,650
Turnover	11.0%
Avg Monthly Earnings	\$3,337.00
Avg New Hire Earnings	\$1,775.00

All NAICS Sectors (private and public)

**Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal
Employer-Household Dynamics,
Local Employment Dynamics (LED)**

Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics

WAGE DEMAND INFORMATION

As of 3-16-08

The Department of Workforce Development Customer Self Service System (CS3) performs matches between job applicants looking for work and employers looking for new employees. **Wage Demand** provides the number of applicants registered in CS3, as well as the annual and median wages that the applicants define as their wage expectations.

County/Region	Average Annual Wage Demand	Median Annual Wage Demand	Number Of Applicants
Benton	\$21,673	\$20,800	177
Carroll	\$23,102	\$20,800	354
Cass	\$22,011	\$20,800	914
Clinton	\$26,241	\$20,800	653
Fountain	\$24,582	\$22,880	197
Howard	\$22,617	\$20,800	3,033
Miami	\$29,273	\$20,800	1,299
Montgomery	\$27,230	\$20,800	537
Tippecanoe	\$24,433	\$20,800	3,274
Tipton	\$24,662	\$21,060	344
Warren	\$22,114	\$20,800	70
White	\$22,704	\$20,800	611
EGR 4	\$24,349	\$20,800	11,463
Indiana	\$27,018	\$20,800	126,011

APPLICANT POOL

Economic Growth Region 4

As of 3-16-08

Job Title	Applicants
Assemblers (Factory Work)	5,306
Production Laborers	4,348
All Other Machine Operators	2,456
Forklift/Industrial Truck Operators	2,428
All Other Hand Workers	1,890
Production Helpers	1,781
Hand Packers & Packagers	1,656
All Other Precision Assemblers	1,344
Production Inspectors, Testers, Graders	1,307
General Office Clerks	1,267
Cashiers, General	1,241
Machine Assemblers	1,163
All Other Machine Setters & Set-Up Oper	1,153
All Other Metal & Plastic Mach Operators	1,094
Receptionists/Information Clerks	1,038
1st Line Supv : Production	995
Shipping & Receiving Clerks	986
Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assembly	933
Administrative Assistants	908
Stock Clerks : Stockroom/Warehouse	900

The Department of Workforce Development's (DWD's) Customer Self Service System (CS3) performs matches between job applicants looking for work and employers looking for applicants to hire. Applicant Pool provides a numerical ranking of the top twenty jobs being sought by job applicants.



To assist with your Employment and Training Needs

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Serving...

Economic Growth Region 4: Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Howard, Miami, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Warren and White counties

InContext

InContext is an award winning monthly online publication of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development and the Indiana Business Research Center at Indiana University's Kelly School of Business. *InContext* offers substantive articles on the Indiana economy in context within the state and the nation. To get acquainted with this informative publication

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